

Park Management/United States Park Police**JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE**

Activity: Park Management
Subactivity: United States Park Police

Program Components	2000 Enacted	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2001 Budget Request	Change From 2000 (+/-)
A. United States Park Police Operations	[54,401]	+55,463	+2,274	57,737	+57,737
B. United States Park Police Pension Fund	[17,704]	+18,704	0	18,704	+18,704
Total Requirements \$(000)	[72,105]	+74,167	+2,274	76,441	+76,441

AUTHORIZATION

16 U.S.C. 1a-6	The National Park Service Organic Act (Law Enforcement Personnel)
Public Law 85-157	Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act amendments of 1957
Public Law 80-447	United States Park Police Arrest Authority in Washington Metropolitan area
5 U.S.C. 8509	Federal Employees Compensation Act
	Title 4 District of Columbia Code

PROPOSED RESTRUCTURE

NOTE: The Department has proposed a restructure of the Park Management activity within the Operation of the National Park System appropriation in FY 2001 to better reflect and represent the needs, requirements, and responsibilities of the United States Park Police. As a result of this restructure, a new United States Park Police subactivity has been created within Park Management. The United States Park Police subactivity will be comprised of two program components: United States Park Police Operations and United States Park Police Pension Fund. In FY 2000, funding for U.S. Park Police operations was included in the Park Management/Visitor Services subactivity; and United States Park Police Pension Fund payments were included in the External Administrative Costs activity.

Total costs associated with the United State Park Police are not reflected in FY 2001 under this new subactivity. The NPS is in the process of verifying other costs that may be present within the park bases of the Statue of Liberty, Gateway National Recreation Area, and the Presidio. It is the intention of the NPS to reflect all funding appropriated to the NPS within this new subactivity once consensus is reached on the proper amount.

OVERVIEW

The **United States Park Police** is an urban oriented law enforcement organization within the National Park Service. It is the oldest Federal uniformed law enforcement agency in the Nation, and was originally formed by George Washington as the Park Watchmen to patrol the Capitol Grounds, the White House and other areas in the District of Columbia. The Park Police law enforcement authority now extends to all National Park Service areas and certain other Federal and State lands. U.S. Park Police jurisdiction includes more than 81,000 acres of parkland including 783 reservations, over 234 miles of roadways, and several hundred miles of shoreline.

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APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- Ib The National Park Service contributes to knowledge about natural and cultural resources and associated values; management decisions about resources and visitors are based on adequate scholarly and scientific information.
- Ila Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.

A. United States Park Police (USPP) Operations FY 2000 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: [\$54,401,000]

The United States Park Police are responsible for performing a full range of law enforcement functions at NPS sites throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, Gateway National Recreation Area in New York and New Jersey, and Golden Gate National Recreation Area in California. Services are performed on foot, horseback, and motorcycle, and in cruisers, boats, and helicopters. Law enforcement functions include visitor and facility protection, emergency services, criminal investigations, special security and protection duties, enforcement of drug and vice laws, and traffic and crowd control. The U.S. Park Police also contribute to the nationwide effort to eradicate drug cultivation, sale, distribution, and use. Drug enforcement resources are used to support surveillance, undercover operations, drug awareness and education, and increased patrol levels in areas with a high incidence of drug related illegal activity.

Anti-terrorism. The U.S. Park Police cooperate with other Federal, State and local law enforcement authorities and organizations in providing specialized security and protection for park resources and the visiting public. Annual operating costs specifically for anti-terrorism activities include those for additional guard and dispatch staff, surveillance system maintenance, equipment repair contracts, telecommunications operators, and security costs payable to the General Services Administration. Ongoing Park Police anti-terrorism activities include: (1) preventing acts of terrorism at monuments and buildings owned and managed by the National Park Service, (2) providing protection to military housing facilities at Fort Wadsworth in New York and the Presidio in San Francisco, (3) providing law enforcement services at various national parks in Washington, D.C., including Lafayette Park across from the White House, the Ellipse, and the National Mall, (4) providing law enforcement assistance in accordance with memorandums of understanding and interagency agreements with various Federal, State, and local agencies regarding terrorist acts and threats, (5) providing law enforcement services to dignitaries and foreign heads of State, who arrive in Washington, D.C., NPS Regional Offices, and other national park sites, and (6) providing dignitary escorts, as well as helicopter surveillance, to assist the United States Secret Service and Department of State with their protective responsibilities.

A funding increase provided in fiscal year 2000 has enabled the Park Police to initiate an ongoing training program which will provide qualified replacements to fill existing vacancies and gradually enhance the numbers of uniformed officers. Two recruit classes are scheduled annually, starting in fiscal year 2000, with these funds covering all costs to train and equip the officers and pay their salaries while in training. The program is funded at \$2.4 million in FY 2000.

Performance Goals

Long-term Goal Ila2	By September 30, 2005, the visitor accident/incident rate will be at or below 8.1 per 100,000 visitor days (a 16% decrease from the FY 1992-1996 baseline of 9.48 per 100,000 visitor days).
Annual Goal Ila2	By September 30, 2001, the visitor accident/incident rate will be at or below 8.62 per 100,000 visitor days (an 8% decrease from the 1992-1996 baseline).

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The purpose of this goal is to provide an opportunity for a safe and enjoyable experience for park visitors. Visitor safety is a priority function within parks and is integral to fulfilling the National Park Service's mission to provide for the public enjoyment of the national parks. The United States Park Police utilizes personnel and other resources to control and reduce the incidence of crime in units of the National Park System patrolled by the Park Police, which supports the achievement of this performance goal address visitor satisfaction and visitor safety.

United States Park Police Performance Information	FY 1999 Preliminary	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Estimate
Number of motor vehicle accidents	3,308	2,800	2,600

United States Park Police Workload Factors	FY 1999 Preliminary	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Estimate
Number of persons arrested	4,730	3,600	3,400
Number of reported drug incidents	2,021	2,100	2,000
Number of search warrants executed	39	45	49
Number of persons arrested for drug violations	1,138	2,700	2,800
Value of narcotics and other property confiscated	\$1.0 million	\$1.5 million	\$1.6 million
Number of firearms confiscated	63	75	79

FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST

	2001 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
▪ United States Park Police Operations \$(000)	57,737	+2,274
The FY 2001 request for United States Park Police Operations is \$57.737 million, which represents an increase of \$57.737 million over the FY 2000 enacted level. The FY 2001 proposed programmatic increase of \$2.274 million to United States Park Police activities includes:		
	\$(000)	
▪ U.S. Park Police Pay Simplification and Enhancement	1,139	
▪ U.S. Park Police Operational Enhancements	335	
▪ Provide Funding for 2001 Presidential Inaugural	800	
Total	2,274	
Justifications for these increases are included at the end of this subactivity's presentation.		

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B. United States Park Police Pension Fund Payments FY 2000 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: [\$17,704,000]

United States Park Police officers hired prior to January 1, 1984 retire under provisions of Public Law 85-157, the "Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act amendments of 1957." This law authorizes the payment of appropriated funds to the extent that benefit payments exceed the deductions from salaries of covered active duty employees.

These United States Park Police officers are not covered by Social Security nor are they eligible for a capital accumulation plan with a matching contribution. The retirement benefit increases for retirees according to the incremental rate of increase in basic pay for active duty Park Police officers. Widows and other survivors receive increases on the basis of a cost-of-living adjustment formula. The FY 2000 payment to the U.S. Park Police Pension Fund of \$17,704,000 was based on an actuarial analysis of employees and retirees. Funding proposed for FY 2001 (\$18.704 million) reflects the increased need for payments into the pension system by Park Police employees covered under Title 4 of the D.C. Code. Funding is required to pay retirement benefits to new retirees, widows, and dependents, as well as increase costs for cost-of-living and pay adjustments.

JUSTIFICATION OF FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST FOR UNITED STATES PARK POLICE

	2001 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
United States Park Police \$(000)	76,441	+2,274

The FY 2001 request for United States Park Police is \$76.441 million and 790 FTE, which represents a net increase of \$76.441 million above the FY 2000 enacted level. The net programmatic increase of \$2.274 million for the United States Park Police subactivity is justified by the proposed changes that follow:

▪ ***United States Park Police Pay Simplification and Enhancement (+\$1,139,000):*** Funding is proposed to address pay and benefit issues facing the United States Park Police. This funding would support pay legislation which is presently under consideration. Simplification of the current pay system in the United States Park Police is necessary to unify the various pay entitlements available to its members. The U.S. Park Police currently have a confusing and complex system of 17 pay scales which requires detailed analysis in order to determine the greater of available benefits. New legislation to simplify the existing pay plan is expected to result in positive benefits in retaining officers within the U.S. Park Police force. Currently, the attrition rate is increasing rapidly, having doubled in the past seven years, and surrounding metropolitan police forces (and other career tracks) are succeeding in recruiting officers from the U.S. Park Police force because of better benefits and pay scales. The Uniformed Division of the United States Secret Service successfully resolved a similar situation with "Simplification of Pay" legislation.

Of the total proposed, the Service would use \$89,000 to restructure the pay of hazardous duty personnel. The United States Park Police is currently proposing legislation requesting a pay increase to members who perform hazardous technical duties, such as canine bomb detection officers and crime scene identification officers. The pay rates have been set for over ten years with no increases, while surrounding metropolitan police forces have increased the pay for similar type positions. As a result, the Park Police are not competitive in recruitment, retention rates are dropping, and diversity recruitment is made more difficult. A recent study performed by McCarthy Consulting

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identified that these pay rates have not kept up with comparable law enforcement agencies. This funding would support the proposed pay legislation.

▪ ***United States Park Police Operational Enhancements and Incentives (+\$335,000)***: The NPS is proposing an increase of \$335,000 in FY 2001 to enhance employee incentives and benefits to promote retention within the U.S. Park Police force. Since 1992, the United States Park Police have seen its attrition rate more than double. At the same time, its ability to compete with other metropolitan law enforcement agencies for recruits has suffered. While this is largely a matter of pay, which is addressed elsewhere, other factors also contribute. This increase seeks to improve the work environment of officers and employees. The Incentive Awards Program would be enhanced as a means of rewarding high-caliber employees and encouraging them to remain on the force. The training program providing continuing opportunities to develop and retain needed skills will be strengthened. The U.S. Park Police equipment replacement activity is considered discrete and is not eligible for the Regional equipment replacement funds; therefore, these funds would be used to address equipment shortfalls including vehicles (sedans, trucks, motorcycles, motor scooters, trailers and vans with the necessary auxiliary equipment), office equipment (copiers, typewriters, fax machines), and personal safety equipment (vests, holsters, helmets, shields, and other personal equipment).

For consistency, both of these increases are shown with the park increase proposal totaling \$24,050,000, in the Analysis of Park Base Increases in the Summaries section of this budget document.

▪ ***Provide Funding for 2001 Presidential Inaugural (+\$800,000)***: The NPS is proposing an increase of \$800,000 in FY 2001 to support additional security needs by the U.S. Park Police related to the Inaugural celebration. As authorized by the Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies Act (36 USC 724), the United States Park Police provide essential services, including law enforcement, at events accompanying Presidential Inaugurals, and issue permits for the use of National Park Service lands at the request of the Inaugural Committee. Historically, activities have taken place at such National Park Service sites as Lafayette Park, the Ellipse, the Washington Monument grounds, and the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials. This request for non-recurring funds would allow for sufficient numbers of officers to be available to handle the attendant law enforcement and security requirements of such events during the 2001 Presidential Inaugural celebration.